

Amendment to the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). In a system for effectuating collaboration between one or many buyers and sellers, and their third party service providers [, (collectively called] (“partners”) in a supply community [which enables an establishing partner to establish consequences that motivate one or more other partners to achieve a target minimum level of performance on at least one performance indicator that measures aggregate performance for a set of events defined by a time or count period wherein the other partners, the performance indicators, the target minimum level of performance required for each performance indicator, and the consequence for each performance indicator are selected and specified by the establishing partner], the method including the steps of: selecting at least one other partner; selecting at least one performance indicator for each selected partner, and specifying the minimum level of performance and the consequence for the at least one selected indicator; collecting and storing data necessary to calculate the performance of the at least one selected partner on the at least one selected performance indicator; analyzing the collected and stored data to aggregate performance for the time or event count period; and determining the credit or debit due to each selected and participating partner for the time or event count period.

Claim 22 (currently amended). A system for effectuating collaboration between one or many buyers and sellers, their third party service providers (“partners”) in a supply community [which enables an establishing partner to

establish consequences that motivate other partners to achieve or exceed a minimum level of performance on at least one performance indicator that measures aggregate performance for a set of events defined by a time or count period wherein the other partners, the performance indicators, the minimum level of performance required for each performance indicator, and the consequence for each level of performance are selected by the establishing party], the system comprising: means for an establishing partner to select at least one other partner; means for the establishing partner to select at least one performance indicator and specify the minimum level of performance and the consequence for each indicator; means for collecting and storing data to calculate the level of performance of the selected at least one partner on the at least one performance indicator; means for analyzing the data to generate aggregated levels of performance for the time or event count duration; and means for determining the credit or debit due to the at least one selected participating partner for the established time or event count duration.

It is respectfully requested that the preliminary amendment to claims 1 and 21 submitted to make the claims more easily readable be entered.

Respectfully submitted,

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